★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION

Industrial Worker

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

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Left Side

Looking back at 1967, three trends proved especially significant: militant unionism among teachers, and the recognition that modern technical factors require international organization in aviation, and departmental organization in transportation.

In December, just before the AFL-CIO convened at Bal Harbor, the AFL Maritime Trades Department called for a Conference of Transportation Trades. This move was also sponsored by the 280,000 member Railway and Airline Clerks, who now include Railway Express personnel. This move recalls the proposal that in the minds of some is the real reason Hoffa went to jail, and is a "lift" from the Transportation Department 500 in the IWW proposed organizational chart — but we aim at no copyright on better union structure.

A month earlier, unions in the aviation industry in 21 countries in North and South America had signed a pact for joint bargaining with the aviation companies.

Of teacher experience last year, the NEA, which used to be called the teachers' "company union" but which this year took to striking, gave a most quotable summary that appeared in Business Week at end of September:

"Teachers' groups that signed early with school boards got moderate pay increases; groups that barganied hard to the last minute got better increases; groups that went on strike did the best of all."

A fourth trend of no mean significance was the large number of instances in which the rank and file of various unions turned down the agreements proposed by their bargainers.

* * *

We wouldn't want to strike a hero's medal for Jimmy Hoffa, or lend him a martyr's crown while he is in prison, neither would we cite him as labor's 1967 man of the year. On the other hand, we gladly give him credit for grasping the simple truth that air, land and water transport workers ought to work together to lick common problems.

One item of progress toward enlightenment in the past year was open acknowledgement in the press that up to four million Americans suffer from malnutrition; not because they don't know how to select the right food, but because they haven't got the money to buy with and to live on "welfare" is equal to slow (more or less slow) starvation.

One result of poverty, which bugs millions besides the extremely poor, is easy recruting for military service. "The army feeds well." For poor kids, that's an argument against draft resistance. tt may also be an argument of the boss class against raising wage levels and fattening up welfare handouts.

BEST NO WAR PLAN: FIGHT FOR LABOR GOALS

More Students and Teachers Refuse to Fall in Line



STUDENTS AND THE I.W.W.

The IWW has just ended a "holiday" from organizing in industry for collective bargaining purposes. We had reasons for the "holiday" but a recent conference of members in the Chicago area urged that once more we get back into the industries where the IWW made its reputation. That sentiment met with a warm response from our membership and officers in general. The "holiday" is over.

During this "holiday" our membership has consisted of veterans of earlier industrial struggles and younger workers, including a considerable number of students who joined, as the conference minutes put it, "not for collective bargaining purposes but to give their support to our far-reaching aims and to our opposition to the status quo." The Minutes further note "hat in earlier years, students had done much of the organizing work of this and other unions, and that the very low wage usually offered to students who were working part-time, provided grounds for the IWW to render them some practical collective bargaining service."

This gives new opportunities to those "serving an unpaid apprenticeship at college to prepare for their future job," to quote those Minutes again. Students joining us want to help build something more than a "job trust." Most, so long as this system lasts, can expect their future to be in the great class of hired hands. As hired hands, whether we stopped at grade 8 or got a Ph. D., we engage in the folly of doing what others decide to have done. We thereby make a history, with our work, of which we must be ashamed. It is time for labor to act mature — to refuse to be used against itself, to undermine wage bids or to bomb each other — and to assert the will to decide what work is to be done. This needs a new labor movement.

We welcome whatever fervor and fire, time and energy, that students can give us to organize their part-time jobs, or to help us leaflet, organize and educate others. We expect to be engaged in an extensive general leafleting campaign on basic union and class issues, and will need all possible hands on deck. (For practical reasons we avoid organizing those under 18 unless they are working on jobs we are trying to organize for collective bargaining purposes.) Are you with us? The One Big Union plan includes a universal transfer system so that you transfer from one industrial union to another as occasion arises; temporarily we write out your red card in the industry in which you are now or were last woking: initiation fee $2.00, dues a dollar a month unless you are unemployed, and a quarterly press stamp $1.00 . . . And the help of non-members with social convictions is welcome too.

One very helpful thing all our friends can do for us is to hustle us some subscriptions for the Industrial Worker at $2.00 per year — or to get some leaflets from us for free distribution.

Industrial Workers of the World
2422 N. Halsted Street,
Chicago, Illinois, 60614

But 'Piecards for Peace' Fear To Face Issue

BY CHARLES DOEHRER

The National Labor Leadership Assembly for Peace, under the auspices of the Trade Union Division of SANE, met in Chicago November 11-12 for a "thorough-going examination of the war in Vietnam and its impact on the labor movement and American society." The sentiment of a majority of the 500-plus, predominantly white, male trade-union-leader participants seemed to be that the conference signaled the first big break in the labor movement's longstanding alignment with Johnson and the warhawks. But the view was not universal, even among those present.

The conference glittered with luminescent lib-lab and lab-lib names. Guest speakers were Sen. Eugene McCarthy, John Kenneth Galbraith, Martin Luther King Jr., Sen. Vance Hartke, R[illegible] Arnold L. [illegible], Norman Thomas, and TV commentator David Schoenbrun. Principal labor speakers were Frank Rosenblum, general secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the United Auto Workers; and, Victor Reuther, director of the UAW's International Affairs Dept. A family illness prevented Patrick Gorman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, from attending.

It was an impressive assembly, but to keep things in perspective it should be remembered that just two days earlier at another meeting of union leaders in New York, where labor's continuing solidarity with the war was loudly proclaimed, the guest list — even more impressive—included George Meany, boss of the AFL-CIO, and that great, true friend of labor, LBJ, himself.

What is the message to be read in these meetings? Since labor leaders are said to be hardnosed people who deal only in the practical, and since liberal labor leaders have not been notorious lately for crusading in a vacuum, can we conclude (with a bit of collateral support from the public opinion polls, which must certainly also reflect the views of working people) that rank and file unrest about the war is not just waiting to be ignited, but is already burning holes in the britches of those on top?

The labor officials at both meet-

(Continued on page 4)

"An Injury to One Is an Injury to All" ● *One Union* *One Label* *One Enemy*

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PAMPHLET REVIEW

The Question Is: Who Speaks for the Blacks?

It will be long before a really satisfactory account of the recent and still current population shift within the United States, involving chiefly working class Negroes, is told. At present we still get the story in sections, from down south where this, one of the greatest migrations in US history originates, for open and the other end of the migrants 'trail' in northern cities.

Bare facts are furnished by official government statistics. For instance, "in the years 1960-1965 more than two million Negroes left the South. Of these, one million found their way to New York City and most of the remainder went to Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and other large cities north and west.

Seven years ago, 60 percent of the country's 19 million Negroes still lived in the South, and this despite the heavy migration which had already set in during the latter part of the preceding decade. By 1965 the Negro population had grown to 21 million with just over half of them living in the South.

This uprooting of people in the South and their attempts at resettlement and accomodation to conditions in the North brought to the fore all the long-standing grievances of black people and created new ones both for those who remained in the South and those who came North. The resulting uproar has been the subject of outstanding news events of the past year.

As is characteristic of our times, the boiling discontent in Negro communities has produced an astonishing number of writers who try to analyze the situation, bringing to the task too little learning and practically no understanding of the divergent class interests and attitudes that exist among Negroes just as among other people. To most of these analyzers black is black, and that's that. And, of course, that's wrong.

This discontent in action has also brought forth a number of candidates for leadership positions in the Black Mass Revolt.

"Black Mass Revolt," a 24-page mimiographed booklet published by News & Letters, for all that it was evidently a hurry-up job, gets down to brass tacks of the class struggle and produces evidence to show that no matter what black leaders claim, there is a growing awareness among rank and file black workers that the rock bottom issue is one of class and not of race. The race issue is not neglected, of course. The workers dealt with here are black and they certainly have special problems. Not the least of these problems is the crew of black would-be leaders of the black masses who conjur up fairyland pictures of a black nationalism and a black culture which are supposed to inspire pride, confidence and political activity in the Negro worker who, like his white fellow worker, first of all needs economic power, and who knows it.

On the question of politics this pamphlet, which strives to present the words and views of on-the-job black workers, has this to say:

"Too many of the leaders who talk about black power mean only electoral power as if that would change the system. They talk about being the majority, or promise 'they soon will be,' in the cities. But the masses down South, where they **are** the majority, know that voting doesn't change anything very much. It isn't only that whitey cheats them out of their majority — that they do expertly even when the blacks do come and vote. But the greater truth still is this: so long as the 'boss and black' relationship remains, no vote can change their conditions of life."

Acknowledging that revolts in cities prove people as people have certain powers, the pamphlet stresses that unless they "are strategically placed in industry" they have no real power to eliminate the evils that beset them.

"To give any other impression by claiming that the organization of the ghettos is equivalent to the organization in the factories is only to sow disasterous illusions. The masses are right to reject these illusions; and, instead, try to find some solidarity with white labor — the white rank and file who do oppose management. Not only are they involved throughout the country in big strikes together, but black workers are right to use this as the reason for not isolating themselves from the white workers by lumping them together in the same category as whitey who is boss.

"It may appear to the middle class Negro that it is only a question of 'working out new lines of communication' with the masses to bring the 'message' to them. But the black m a s s e s refuse to b l i n d themselves to the inherent faults of leaders — even the uncorrupted ones — who are under the illusion that they can get something for the masses within the system. . .

"Nor are they about to accept a Sunday sermon as a 'philosophy of history'. Just as black nationalism didn't change its class nature by moving from Elijah Muhammad's Nation of Islam to the Christianity of a Black Jesus and a Black Madonna, so black power, exhilarating as that naturally is, will not mean tearing the system up by its roots unless it means mass power, **working class power.**

"This is what a black worker meant when he said, 'I like to listen to *Hap Brown and Stokely* Carmicael. I like to hear them lay it on the line to whitey. They talk it up good. But that don't mean I'll follow them. I have to see things change right here first,' and he pointed to the production line."

You can get a copy of "Black Mass Revolt" for 35 cents, News & Letters, 415 Brainard St., Detroit, Mich. 48201.

What Every Young Girl Should Know

In 1968 in USA there will be seven million girls in that most marriageable age, 18 to 21. It is a pleasant thought though it runs past the capacity of our imagination to picture them all. The imagination of economists and demographers goes a few steps further and reckons what a difference it will make whether these girls, on the average, decide to have one or two or four or five children.

Whether their children in turn will feel crowded, depends not only on their number, but on whether they organize their own lives or let others organize their lives for them.

Will they let themselves be crowded onto two per cent of our land space? Crowding there because that is where the action is, where the ladders are that they must climb, stepping on each other's fingers? Being crowded there to make labor supplies most readily available and populations most readily manipulable? Crowding there although it magnifies the problem of what to do with wastes? Crowding there although — or because — it makes the rents run higher? If so, they feel very, very crowded.

Will they continue the rat race? Will they continue the eight hour day by wasting all other time gained from inventions in the foolish chore of selling stuff to each other when it costs more to sell it than to make it, and then trying to collect from each other, and being made to want what no one really wants, raising the statistical level of consumption while the real standard of living falls down? If so, we'll feel crowded, for time and space.

Will the net result of all our work — what is left over after the demands of parasites, plant, and workers are all met — continue to be an accumulation of greater destructive power in the hands of a military-industrial-academic complex? And will this only mirror a like situation in the rest of the world? If so, we will hurrah for our dictators when they bid us blast out the neighbors to make room for ourselves.

This earth has always felt crowded to those who let others organize their lives for them. It is roomy enough for those who organize their own.

—F.T.

Sweet Gatling Gun

Richard John Gatling (1818-1903) was a gentle and kindhearted man. As the account of his life in the Encyclopedia Americana explains, the sight of wounded soldiers returning from the Civil War led him to think that if only he could make war horrible enough, governments would cease to wage war. He devoted himself to the study of ordnance and ballistics and invented the Gatling Gun. That is why we have had no wars since 1965.

SYMPATHETIC BOSSES

I sit on a man's back, choking him and making him carry me, and yet assure myself and others that I am very sorry for him and wish to lighten his load by all possible means — except by getting off his back. **—Tolstoi**

Whatever other qualifications American businessmen may have, "they are not competent to design a new civilization and, in any case, have no democratic right to do so," says Michael Harrington.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

BRANCH MEETINGS

HOUSTON, Texas. — Robert (Blackie) Vaughan is the acting Secretary of the Houston I.U. 510 branch. All communications intended for the branch should be addressed to him at 7505 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Tex. 77011.

* * *

BERKELEY, Calif. — For information about meetings and other activities, contact Mark Kleiman, Branch Secretary, 1126 Delaware. Telephone: 526-3858.

* * *

NEW YORK CITY: Call Bill Goring for delegate service and information. Telephone 749-6465.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO: Branch Secretary Doug Roycroft, 415 Buchanan St., Apt. 108, will stamp you up and supply information.

* * *

CHICAGO branch general membership meetings are now being held on the first Friday of the month at 2422 N. Halsted Street. W. H. Westman, Secretary.

* * *

YAKIMA, Wash. — For information about work and organization opportunities in the fruit and farm areas of Eastern Washington, get in touch with George C. Underwood, 102 South 3rd Ave., telephone GLencourt 3-2046.

* * *

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — IWW Stationary Delegate, P.O. Box 46583, Los Angeles; or call Dorice McDaniels, phone number: OR 7-8397.

* * *

VANCOUVER, B.C. — Stationary Delegates J. B. McAndrew, 1896 I Ave., basement apartment; phone 738-7864.

A CYNIC'S VIEW

Editor:

Years of association with our clock-punching "capitalists" has convinced me of the wisdom of Jay Gould's boast, "I can hire one-half of the working class to kill the other half."

I distinctly remember the German workers (most of them ex-Marxists) slauÿhtering their Russian brothers. In my own country I have talked to my fellow workers who boasted of killing whomever Uncle Sam told them to kill. I live and work with the fear that haunts the American proletariat: **peace, stagnation, and no jobs.**

—John A. Davis

LET'S BE HUMAN

With proper training it's not difficult to diagnose most of the common diseases of childhood. But there's no laboratory test that can help diagnose humiliation, no surgery that can clear up insecurity, no antibiotic that can cure hatred. **—Dr. Spock**

"Among the many things money can't buy is what it used to."

FOUR IN A ROW

Indulgence in war is anti-social, in that it is destructive of all that is useful to mankind, including man himself. A bullet, a bayonet, a bomb, each has only one use, and that is to destroy. In a war, any war, civilization takes a backward step.

Though we may plausibly make a distinction between aggressor and defender, the spectacle of great masses of men having at each other in mortal combat presents to the thoughtful observer of both tragedy and stupidiy. Often, and foolishly, the struggling partisans imagine themselves to be contending for the same high principles until, exhausted and helpless, there is neither victory nor principle left for division at the end.

Alas, those who fight in war and are fortunate enough to return unharmed find themselves to be graduates of a school that teaches only the art of killing. They could have learned as much by joining the butchers' union at home.

Oft do these poor, foolish ones go forth to fight in another war. Americans, survivors of the Korean holocaust, return to a new war in Vietnam, inflicting napalm hell on an enemy there.

Liberty, democracy, God and country, how devilishly are they defended by the followers of a stupid trade. Nothing can be more ridiculous than the cult of the unlearned.

Martin Luther King tells the sad tale so clearly: The great American people have gone on the warpath four times in the last twenty-five years. (The thought is his, the wording is mine.) Count them if you will: World War Two, the Cold War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War. Backward goes civilization, four steps in a row. We excel even enemies Russia and China in the pactice of the bloody art.

When peace comes will it be only a Roman Peace, with a continuous rumbling and booming of the latest engines of war, poised for action on some distant border?

Erich Fromm, in **Man for Himself,** suggests that man is capable of building a social order governed by the principles of equality, justice, and love. I would say amen to all that and add another word — Peace.

Man, American man, does have that capability, but when shall it be exercised?

—J. F. McDaniels

We Cooperate With the Scribes

The IWW is here to make history, but there is increasing interest in the history it has already made. At the IWW national office we find that from the increasing flow of students looking for material for research papers, and the graduate students turning out exhaustive research reports. We are always happy to co-operate and we are sure that Wayne State Labor Archives co-operates too, and we have deposited extensive records there for that purpose.

One indicator of the interest is the notice in Labor Historians Newsletter that when the Organization of American Historians meets at Dallas April 18 to 20, a featured speaker will be Melvyn Dubofsky whose paper has the weird title "The IWW, the Culture of Poverty and the Concept of Power."

Professor Dubofsky is writing a book on the origins and early history of the IWW, and has published some results of his researches in articles of interest to our readers, one on the origins of western labor radicalism in Labor History spring 1966, and in same vein an exploration of the miner strikes and spurt of Populism in Idaho in the 1890's, as background for the line-up later in the Haywood-Moyer-Pettibone case. This appears in Pacific Northwest Quarterly for January 1967, along with an account of the Populist fight with the mining companies by W. J. Gaboury, both well worth reading as IWW and WFM background.

From the same Newsletter we learn that Michael Brook, Reference Librarian at Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minn. 55101, is compiling a bibliography of Swedish-American radical materials, including Swedish IWW activities in America, which may be had by researchers.

The University of Utah has postponed publication of Gibbs Smiths book on Joe Hill to early 1968.

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INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
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Roy Wortman, instructor at Ohio State, Columbus, is preparing an extensive thesis on IWW in Cleveland with focus on period 1930-50. We prefer that our history be told accurately and are happy to co-operate. Readers with odd scraps of information and recollections likely to evaporate, are urged to write them down, and let us know what bits of the jigsaw puzzle they can provide.

—F.T.

The President's commission for the study of poverty in America is expected to report soon. One of its conclusions already announced is that city poverty problems are rooted in 14 million rural victims of deprivation.

"The mightiest concentration of economic power in the world today in the U.S. Defense Department."

Preamble

• THE WORKING CLASS and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of management of the industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

• IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

"PIECARDS FOR PEACE"

(Continued from Page 1)

ings were certainly aware that the war in Vietnam is only able to happen because working people have endorsed it politically (contributing their sons, their votes and their tax dollars) and economically (by manufacturing it where they work).

American workers made this country victorious in World War II when their massive productive ability was harnessed to that goal through a no-strike pledge. They have been strapped to the war in Vietnam by full employment and fat paychecks (so far as white workers are concerned). Now, however, as the cost of the war in money and sons increases, as escalation becomes a substitute for victory, and doubts begin to arise as to whether the enemy is in Vietnam or closer to home, the straps are wearing thin. Who will reharness the powerful beast of burden, and whose wagon will it pull?

The intention of the conservative leaders is obvious. To them it is merely a matter of patching the harness and increasing the load on the same wagon. Thus, in the very act of denying the existence of such unrest, they slyly look about to find its cradle.

But the National Labor Leadership Assembly for Peace represented the liberal element of labor leadership. It quickly became apparent that it was not their aim to unleash labor's economic lightning, but to encourage its political thunder. That is, the Assembly hoped to cycle the emergent antiwar energy in liberal, political directions, so as to advance the interests of the liberal establishment, vis a vis the conservative establishment, within the labor movement, the Democratic Party, the nation and, ultimately, the world. Ergo: Peace? Or, ergo: neatly siphoned off energy?

The statement of policy, which the conference adopted without amendment or challenge, and the words of the labor speakers made the approach abundantly clear. It was not so much in what was said, but in what was left out.

"To remain silent in this crucial period would constitute a betrayal of the finest traditions of independence, forthrightness and moral leadership which are the heritage of the American labor movement," said the policy statement, without citing any recent examples.

"In speaking out against the administration's Vietnam policy," it continued, offering no explanation for tardiness, "we add our voices to those of millions of other concerned Americans, including statesmen, scholars, clergymen, students and businessmen. We believe this war is immoral. We believe our continued involvement in the war is contrary to the best interests of our country. We believe there can be no justification for expending the precious lives of our American youth and destroying ever-lager numbers of Vietnamese men, women and children."

The operative portion of the policy statement consisted of three political "urges" which boldly positioned the group slightly to the left of Paul N. McCloskey Jr., the Republican dove áho whipped Shirley Temple, namely:

"We therefore urge an immediate and unconditional end to the bombings of North Vietnam . . .;" "We urge . . . our government . . . to negotiate a settlement of the war with the parties directly involved in the conflict, including the National Liberation Front...": and, "we urge our government to initiate a sincere search for a negotiated settlement . . . "

The significance of what was left out can be determined by reading between the lines of the statement's final section which says: "WE emerge from this Assembly with a reinforced determination to make our voices heard and our influence felt by our policy makers . . . American labor must play its part in bringing this savage war to a swift and just conclusion, so that we may devote our wealth and energies to the struggle against poverty, disease, hunger and bigotry."

These words imply a functional, although unspoken, no-strike pledge on the part of the liberal union officials. As they see it, the war must be brought to an end so that it will THEN be possible to resume the "struggle against poverty, disease, etc." Does this mean that to pursue such goals right NOW, while the conflict still rages, would be incompatible with the war program? **Well, yes, indeed it does mean that. As a matter of fact, the most anti-war thing the labor movement could do today, is simply to take up once again the struggle for labor's own long-neglected goals — for example, the shorter work week, a constantly increasing share of what is produced, and, most important, the deciding voice in what is to be produced.**

But these are economic proposals, and you would hardly expect that economic proposals would be raised at a conference of labor leaders. Such proposals were not brought up in the policy statement, neither were they mentioned in the speeches of Mazey, Rosenblum and Reuther—who seemed to do an elaborate lollypop dance around anything that might incite workers to employ their special bargaining position as the producers of the materials of war. The effort seemed to be to blur the image of workers as anything other than a portion of the citizenry.

Rosenblum conceded that "labor has a vital interest in the fight for peace," but immediately trampled on his own thought by adding that "union members are not different from the American people in general." To believe that, strips labor of its entire economic arsenal.

"Time is short," said Rosenblum. "Each day, our casualties rise — and fatalities are irretrievable. We must turn our attention to practical means to convey the urgency of the situation more effectively and more extensively. Needless to say, we should work within our own organizations not only to educate our members but also to mobilize widespread letter-writing to our Senators and Representative." (With time so short, he might have added a reminder to use airmail stamps.)

Emil Mazey did even better in skirting the issue. After opening his lengthy talk by saying, "I welcome this opportunity to participate in this conference with enlightened and concerned fellow trade unionists in our mutual search for peace and freedom," he never again mentioned the labor movement, directly or indirectly, except once, when he panned the AFL-CIO executive committee as being opposed to dissent.

But Mazey himself didn't seem to be particularly enthusiastic about certain kinds of dissent. "I believe," he said, "that the march on the Pentagon, the burning of American flags, sit-ins at draft boards, the demonstrations and disturbances at induction centers, play into the hands of the hawks and weakens our efforts to change the improper foreign policies on the part of our government."

Perhaps the most curious remarks at the conference were those of Victor Reuther. An acknowledged funnel for CIA, funds Reuther devoted a considerable portion of his speech to a detailed expose of the right-wing associations of Meany and his henchmen.

". . . the AFL-CIO leadership," he said, "remains obsessed by no-longer-relevant cold-war objectives and the negative aspects of anti-communism — an obsession which has led it repeatedly into open collaboration with elements both at home and abroad which are essentially anti-democratic."

"Intervention by the AFL-CIO in the internal affairs of labor movements in other lands," he pointed out, "has occurred with a frequency and through methods which U.S. labor would never accept as proper were such intervention practised by others in our own country and our own unions."

Among the guest speakers, to give credit where it is due, Martin Luther King and Sen. Hartke (D-Indiana) spoke out most directly. "Congressional cuts in the anti-poverty program," King said, "are political guerrilla warfare against the defenseless poor of our nation." King also drew the biggest laugh of the conference when he noted that as the role of the South Vietnamese army grows steadily smaller in the conflict, it may one day become history's first non-violent army."

Sen. Hartke said that in speaking out against the war he does not consider himself to be the dissenter. "The president," he said, "is the dissenter from the peace mandate given in 1964."

Hartke concluded his talk with a ferver that the rest of the assembly never quite captured. "I want to support the boys in Vietnam," he shouted. "How to support the boys in Vietnam? BRING THEM HOME!"

Old-Timers: Do You Remember?

One old edition of the IWW songbook was issued by the Seattle Local, no date marked, but probably about 1914. It includes one song "We are the only union . . . " to be sung to the tune of Tommy Atkins. It is distinguished also by the songs, not appearing in any other edition, noted: "words by J.H. of the IWW." In it songs by Joe Hill are ascribed, "words by J. Hill."

Was "J.H. of the IWW." Joe Hill or someone else with the same initials?

The songs ascribed to "J.H. of IWW" are the following:

1. "Nearer my job to thee, nearer to thee, three plunks for office fee, but my fare is free . . . "— an attack on the employment shark;

2. "Coffee An' ";

3. "Down in the Old Dark Mill" (to the tune of Down by the Old Mill Stream — story of a lost arm and a lost girl-friend);

4. "The Old Toiler's Message" (tune: Silver Threads Among the Gold);

5. "The Girl Question" (Time: Tell Mother I'll Be There).

In this edition, "Preacher and the Slave" is credited as usual to J. Hill. In an edition by Spokane Local, about July 1911, this song is credited to F.B. Brechler. Can anyone explain how this name came to be used in this way? He is also listed as author of the song "Workers Shall the Masters Rule Us?" Does anyone know anything about him?

A 32nd edition of the song book is in process of preparation. One proposal that has been made is to mimeograph a supplement to it to include all of the 185 items that have appeared in one edition or another of the song book, but not appearing in either the 31st or the 32nd edition. If this is done it would be desirable to include whatever historical information we can about old songs, the circumstances under which they were written, or a bit of biography about those who wrote them.

Elimination of cigarette smoking would reduce lung cancer by one-half, Am. Cancer Soceity says.

CHRISTIANS AT WAR

(Tune: "Onward, Christian Soldiers")

Onward, Christian soldiers! Duty's way is plain.
Slay your Christian neighbors, or by them be slain.
Pulpiteers are spouting effervescent swill,
God above is calling you to rob and rape and kill,
All your acts are sanctified by the Lamb on high;
If you love the Holy Ghost, go murder, pray and die.

Onward, Christian soldiers, rip and tear and smite!
Let the gentle Jesus bless your dynamite.
Splinter skulls with shrapnel, fertilize the sod;
Folks who do not speak your tongue deserve the curse of God.
Smash the doors of every home, pretty maidens seize;
Use your might and sacred right to treat them as you please.

Onward, Christian soldiers! Eat and drink your fill;
Rob with bloody fingers, Christ O.K.'s the bill.
Steal the farmers' savings, take their grain and meat;
Even though the children starve, the Saviour's bums must eat.
Burn the peasant's cottages, orphans leave bereft;
In Jehovah's holy name, wreak ruin right and left.

Onward, Christian soldiers! Drench the land with gore;
Mercy is a weakness all the gods abhor.
Bayonet the babies, jab the mothers, too;
Hoist the cross of Cavalry to hallow all you do.
File your bullets' noses flat, poison every well;
God decrees your enemies must all go plumb to hell.

Onward, Christian soldiers! Blighting all you meet,
Trampling human freedom under pious feet.
Praise the Lord whose dollar sign dupes his favored race!
Make the foreign trash respect your bullion brand of grace.
Trust in mock salvation, serve as tyrant's tools:
History will say of you: "That pack of Goddamn folls."

—by John F. Kendrick, reprinted from the "Little Red Song Book" of The Industrial Workers of the World, 2422 North Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Price, 40c.

Low Pay Explains The Moonlighter

Reducing the hours in a work-week is not necessarily followed by an increase in the number of workers holding two jobs. This is one conclusion pointed up in an article in the October issue of Monthly Labor Review, journal of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

The article reviews the findings of a 1966 survey of "moonlighting", the practice of working at more than one job. Following are some of the facts that account for the "work hog" as disclosed by the statistics:

- Paycheck size. The lower the earnings on the primary job, the more likely a man is to look for additional work.
- Family size. Married men were found to be twice as likely to be moonlighters as bachelors. The rate of moonlighting tends to increase with the number of children. A man with five or more children is twice as likely to hold a second job as a man with one child.
- The study disclosed that persons who worked from 35 to 40 hours on a main job were no more likely to be moonlighters than those who worked 41 to 48 hours.

Just under five per cent of all employed workers — 3,600,000 of them — were found to be moonlighters.

Highest rate of second job holders was found among postal workers, about one out of ten. Persons living on farms have a high two-job rate.

About one-fourth of all multiple job holders worked part time on both jobs. Eight per cent held two full-time jobs.

Mace Gas An Unknown

Police getting ready for riots are getting set to use slippery material to make us skid on sidewalks, adhesives to glue bunches of us together, and especially the new "Mace" gas. Dr. John Spiegel, specialist on riot control at Brandeis University says no tests have been made on mace gas to check its effects on children, asthmatics or those with heart conditions, or its long range effects. He anticipates the more the police rely on weapons the more they will escalate minor disturbance into riots.

Child Labor

Over 365,000 children between 10 and 13 are counted as farm laborers. In many states children under 14 are excused from school for seasonal crop requirements. AMA is asking a 14 year minimum for regular employment.

OFFICE AUTOMATION

Over the past five years automation has cut the number of employes at Book-of-the-Month Club headquarters from 1,800 to 560.

The Most Advanced People - A Fable

In Xanadu the Smith family owned the multiplication tables. The family name is much more difficult than that to pronounce, but for ages they had done whatever work was to be done with metals and their name meant "smith." It was understood that a Smith ancestor had invented the multiplication tables, worked them out, inscribed them on stone and it was the accepted rule that no one should use them without the permission of the Smith family.

When other residents of Xanadu built a house, or started a new pattern of basket weaving, or did anything else that could be construed as involving a use of the tables, they paid the Smiths a fee. Archeological research has shown that many people were not sure what work used the tables and what didn't, but there were specially trained Magistrates of the Tables who had studied the arguments and decisions in the earlier disputes and who at a later generation dispensed with all argument, making their decision in any unprecedented case by opening up a chicken, the same to be provided by the applicant. (If the chicken had more than one heart they decided for the applicant, otherwise for the Smiths.)

Documents unearthed show that there was some grumbling about this practice, especially by those whose undertakings were held up pending a decision by the Magistrates, or by some who had been belatedly assessed a fee worth more than the work they were alleged to have done using the tables. An examination of the Xanadu press shows that discerning editors were aware of these grumblings, and that they regularly pointed out that these complaints, even assuming they were justified, related only to the alleged human shortcomings of the Magistrates and in no way reflected on the Fundamental Plan.

It was self-evident to them that the Fundamental Plan was right: If one's descendants could not be allowed to own one's discoveries, there would be no incentive to make discoveries, and there would be no progress. They felt sure that the chicken reform, making the magistrates' decisions strictly impersonal, should end all such grumbling, for even if this decision did at times appear unreasonable, why should one fight fate?

Some crude wall inscriptions with a very nasty reference to the Smiths also indicate some underground use of a substitute for the tables, a method that can be traced to a neighboring tribe of herdsmen who also counted by tens. (Evidently these herdsmen had become familiar with the multiplication process up through "five times" from keeping score on their fingers. To multiply numbers between five and ten, they bent down one finger on the left hand for each unit by which one of the numbers exceeded five, and on the right hand did likewise for the other number; they added up the bent down fingers, considering them as tens, and to their sum added the product of the fingers that remained upright on each hand.) Illustrations of the method can be found scratched on walls along with indecent graffiti showing that the anti-Smith movement even assailed the Magistrates as serving the Smiths rather than the community.

Thus, despite the refinements of justice, discontent continued among those whom the press described as "ignorant and misinformed, the victims of scheming demagogs."

Some of these demagogs had publicly pointed to the progress said to be made by some far-away people who used the tables without paying the Smiths or any other family for their use. The press reported this as evidence that some disloyal residents of Xanadu, very likely someone influenced by the demagogs, had stolen the secrets of the multiplication table and sold them to the far-off people, who could not very likely have made such a discovery for themselves.

It was concluded that the far-off people might benefit temporarily from copying, but without the Fundamental Plan of providing incentive for discoveries they were sure soon to lag behind Xanadu. The best editorial opinion in Xanadu assured the citizens that if all possible progress was not being made, this was because they were not following the Fundamental Plan with thoroughness, but instead were cheating on the use of the tables, listening to demagogs, and failing to provide sufficient incentive to make more progress.

It is not known how all this worked out for the civilization of Xanadu suddenly disappeared.

—F.T.



"FREE RIDE TO THE JOB"

The idea of free transportation is not a new one. Aside from the "free shipments to the job" familiar to the followers of certain types of labor, the proposal to transport people without charge were first made as a means to lure customers into central shopping areas. It has been suggested more recently as a plan to get poor city workers to outlying jobs.

"If a job applicant doesn't have an automobile, don't send him to us," said the representative of an industrial plant just outside Los Angeles to a Government agency that was trying to place men and women workers who lived in Watts.

Rearrangement of the population and shifting of industry locations have created a vast number of problems. One immediate result has been growing awareness of the importance of transportation.

Creation of a special Federal Transportation Department on the cabinet level is one indication of this awareness. And, of course, creation of the 9 million member Transportation Department by the AFL-CIO is another.

Duobtless it is gratifying to members of the IWW to witness the endorsement of certain of its own views, clearly stated over 60 years ago, about the structuring of industry and of unions. But they are well aware that any sort of one big union of transportation (or any other industry) set up by business union leaders, with or without cooperation from employers, is weighted against any suggestion of workers' control of industry, which is the heart and soul of IWW revolutionary industrial unionism.

As for the Government's new Transportation Department, it is another step in the streamlining of state functions in our democratic system which is moving toward the degree of centralization so far achieved only by the communist and fascist systems. But it must not be thought that growing federal concern wih transportation is merely product of politician's yen for power, or that a new set of bureaucrats would head the ship of state in a different direction.

Transportation always has been a special protege of government alert to the needs of industry and the military for goods of all kinds. Right now, a crisis point has been reached in the transportation of people, particularly in the transport of workers to and from the job. All the authorities agree that the situation will get worse before it gets better.

For all past ages up to just about now, people managed to carry on all their daily activities within walking distance of the place where they slept. It isn't that way any more, and the old days are not coming back. There is no sign of a reversal of the trend that puts more and more distance between the place where a man eats, sleeps and makes love and the place where he earns his living.

The private automobile is no longer an answer to the problem; first because of the health hazard involved in the further increase in the use of the gas-powered machine; and, second, because the governing class is dead set against raising the income of millions of slum dwellers to the point where they can afford to own automobiles.

Thus it has come about that a number of suggestions have been made in Government — "without the slightest peep from some of the more extreme free enterprisers in Washington or even the U.S. Chamber of Commerce" — that "free" transportation could be a solution to the problem of bringing workers and jobs together.

That's the way the question of the free ride to the job stands today. "We need to know whether free transit would make significant contribution toward relieving rush-hour congestion in our cities," said Alan S. Boyd, the Transportation secretary. He added: "We need more information" as to how free transit might alleviate the problems of ghetto dwellers.

Now what kind of a job would be waiting for a man at the end of a free bus ride furnished by the Department of Transportation? But that is another question. —**Mike Quirk**

Concentration:

Robt. Heilbroner in his "Limits of American Capitalism" estimates that about one tenth of one percent of all corporations account for one third of all production; nad that of the 500 largest corporations, the top 50 do as much business as the remaining 450. He estimates that the stock of the 150 largest "super-corporations" is controlled by between 200 and 300 families.

Medical Costs

Some people are finding that the left-over charge they pay after Medicrae, Supplemental Benefits, Blue Cross and Blue Shield have all done their bit, is more than they paid for the same service before Medicare. Drug prices are a scandal. The magazine Medical Economics asked doctors how much they were making, and of the 18,794 who reported, the median income was $28,960. When AMA sent out a survey on doctor income, by bracket, it put as its lowest bracket "under $20,000," and its highest $100,000 or more."

VIEWPOINT CANADA

By John B. McAndrew

It's pretty tough trying to do anything with the average working man here. He doesn't want to help himself at all.

All he wants is a blueprint, a ready-made organization — just like a package of soap flakes off the shelves of the supermarket—and he'll buy it.

On the one hand this situation symbolizes the capitalistic nature of the ordinary business union which appeals to the average working man. When you come down to it, it is a wonder that the big insurance companies don't get into the union business also. It's for sure that the scissorbills would go for them hook line and sinker at this stage of the game.

On the other hand we have to recognize the reactionary trend in the attitude of the average workingman. If he will not fight for progress, his very passivity must inevitably cause him to sink gradually — and perhaps not so gradually — into heavier chains of slavery.

It seems he will not try to make things better. It's the same as in his home. He'll sit down and eat the meal his wife cooks and puts on the table, but he will not help to cook it.

Money. And more money. Money to convert into consumer goods: this is what the average wage slave thinks is the most important.

He will not consider the fundamental things — like **co-operation,** working together to help one another, seeking **truer values** in life, working for a **saner** world, etc.

The workingman is fooled somehow into thinking that co-operation does not work. The capitalist knows better. The capitalist uses all the processes of co-operation and seeks to improve them all the time — but he keeps the control and the power in his own hands.

The workingman is fooled somehow into rejecting the fullest use of the idea of **Direct Action.** The capitalist knows better. The capitalist uses all the methods of direct action at the grass roots: — direct ownership of lands and resources; direct ownership of the means of production, transportation and supply; direct ownership of the media of information and propaganda; direct control of the organs of violence — the police force, the army and the secret service; direct control of all the subtler bits and pieces of the capitalist state such as the charitable institutions, schools, youth clubs, fraternal societies, and service clubs.

Etc. Etc. Etc.

Yes, the capitalist is most thorough, versatile, practical and bold in his complete acceptance of the ideas of direct action and co-operation. Direct co-operative action is the root, the heart, the source of capitalist power. All else — the law, the political system, etc. — is secondary and resultant.

The workingmen do not seem to see the overwhelming importance and the true nature of the idea of direct action. Neither do their leaders.

They see two things: Paycheques and Politics.

Increase the pay.

And change the government.

Nothing in between. No organizing of the unorganized, no education, no co-operation for self-help and grass roots control over production and distribution.

Hence no **real** power for the workingclass.

Hence increases in pay eventually mean nothing and changes in government prove futile.

Won't our working people ever realize for dead certain that nothing will ever take the place of a fully organized, educated, and co-operative proletarian class in the struggle for their freedom?

If the idea of the co-operative commonwealth of workingmen means anything at all, the call of the IWW cannot be avoided.

Word from Joe Hill House

A member of the steel workers' union wrote me that when they took up a collection for the copper strikers at the AFL-CIO convention in Florida they commenced to sing "I dreamed I saw Joe Hill last night," but those in authority stopped it.

I am getting out 500 more copies of my book (Book of Ammon), paper back, $3.00, with a new last chapter entitled, "I Leave the Catholic Church." I will not join any other church or knock Catholics any more than usual, and I am always friendly with Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker. . .

I spoke to the manager of the Utah University Press and he said Gibbs Smith's book on Joe Hill would be out this February.

For Peace and Freedom,

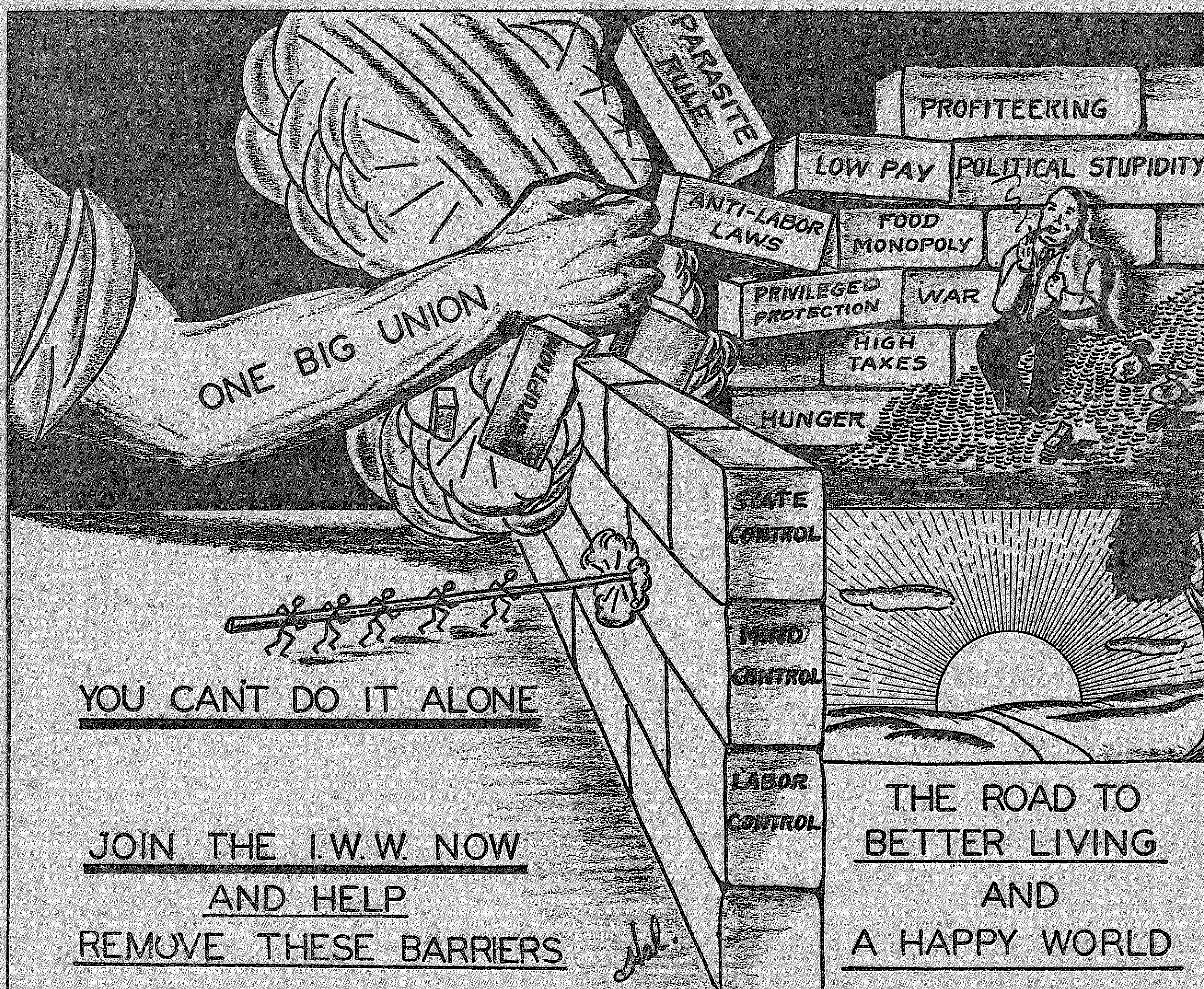
—**Ammon Hennacy**

CANADIANS PROTEST LOW WAGE COMPETITION

A Vancouver union believes it has uncovered a scheme by Canada Rice Mills Ltd. and another struck rice processor to ship rice products from southern United States into Canada.

Report says the union has received information that the company named is processing and packing rice at an Arkansas mill in the heart of the low-wage area. Containers for the scab rice have been printed in Vancouver and shipped to the Arkansas mill since the strike started in October.

The Vancouver workers are demanding a 50c an hour raise in pay that now ranges from $1.65 to $2.56 an hour.



BOOK REVIEW

IN SOCIAL STORM

I have on my desk a book by Boris Yelensky. The subject is for the most part a history of the great Russian Revolution of 1917.

After reading the book carefully and critically I have come to the conclusion that Boris Yelensky has made an important contribution to the understanding and clarification of the many questions that have bothered social science students since the revolution and have thus far remained unanswered.

To give a detailed description of all the interesting events which Yelensky has personally witnessed and participated in would require more space than a short description of his book would permit. I shall confine myself to a few pertinent ideas which will help us better understand the course and the reason for the success of the Bolshevik revolution as well as its failures.

One of the myths that Yelensky explodes is the general attitude of most historians of the revolution that the Bolshevik "take over" was inevitable. This idea of the inevitability of historical events is so ingrained among social thinkers that even those who were opposed to Bolshevism have accepted it as inevitable, as something it was impossible to oppose successfully.

Yelensky, in his book, shows beyond a reasonable doubt that if those who opposed the Bolsheviki (and there were many), as for example the anarchists, and others had had a program and become active on the practical side in organizing and building the new society, they would have been a most formidable opponent to the Bolsheviki. Yet it appears that the opposition was satisfied for the most part with criticism which, in a time of revolution when social life completely disintegrates, is not enough. As examples, he gives the Machno movement and his own experience in organizing some cooperatives in parts of Russia which met with considerable success. Had this been multiplied many times over the chances for success would have been much greater.

This leads Boris Yelensky to another observation which should be interesting and important to understand revolutionary history. That is, a revolutionary movement to be successful must not wait for its organizational work until the revolution begins. The work of organizing must be done long before the revolution is upon us. If the opposition had had a positive program and had tried to put it into practice, it is more than likely that the end results of the revolution would have been different.

There are other important ideas in the book. To get the real significance of all the events that took place, one must read it and judge for himself. Suffice it to say that one will be well rewarded by reading Yelensky's thesis. It will then be much clearer why a revolution which began with so much hope ended so disappointing.

—Joe Goldman

* * *

The book "In Social Storm" is at present available only in Yiddish. For additional information about it, write to B. Yelensky, 1403 N.W. 7th Street, Apt. 609, Miami, Fla. 33125.

Professor Looks For More Riots

A University of California professor got way out on a limb when he told the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science at a December meeting in New York that rioting in U.S. cities was bound to continue and nothing in sight would stop them until they have run their course.

Possibly the professor was merely responding to an urge to get the social sciences up front in the news with something spectacular so as not to be snowed under completely by biologists and technologists; but here is a part of what the man said about the future for rioting:

"They (the riots) will continue until the well of available cities runs dry. . . .

"They will continue because the mood of many Negroes demands them, because there is a quasi-political ideology that justifies them, and because there is no presently effective deterrent or antidote."

Professor T. M. Tomlinson who works at the Los Angeles plant of the university said his conclusions were based on the Watts riot of 1965 and that his findings apply to riots in all urban areas.

"It is already clear," he said, "that counter-violence by the police or national guard exerts no deterrent effect, even though it helps control riots once they have been ignited."

Eventually, Tomlinson said, the movement will exhaust itself and there will be retreat or accomodation by both blacks and whites. It is during this period the nation must move to avert rioting or it "will foster its own demise," he said. "If nothing is done to relieve conditions that foster riots," he concluded, "then politically motivated black organizations will indeed foment civil disturbance with possible outright destruction of urban centers and with them the character of American society."

RICH CHILDREN GET HEALTH BREAKS

"The crisis of health care in the United States today is not how to transplant hearts but how to transplant ordinary health care to the poor," Sargent Shriver told an American Medical Assn. conference on health for the poor held in Chicago.

Among other matters, the director of the federal war on poverty pointed out that the poor have 5 times more heart disease than the rich; that they have 10 times more eye trouble, 6 times more mental illness, retardation and nervous disorders than the rich.

"A poor child," he said, "has 50 per cent more of a chance of dying before age 1 than a rich child," and the chance of dying before age 35 is 4 times greater for the poor.

TEACHERS LOSE IN JERSEY COURT

The New Jersey supreme court upheld convictions of striking teachers in Woodbridge and Newark on charges of criminal contempt. The court held that both state and federal constitutions prohibited strikeing by teachers.

Closed Shop Request

Maryland state legislature received a demand from the American Bar Association that it be given a closed shop — the same kind of closed shop the ABA helped outlaw for unions 20 years ago in the Taft-Hartley Act. The ABA proposal would require all Maryland lawyers to join the state and local bar association. Sixty per cent are now members.

ARTIST AN EX-WOB

The State Historical Society at Tacoma, Wash. is permanently displaying 77 paintings by R. D. Ginther. Ginther was a Wobblie in the old days when he was learning what the struggle was about. Skidroad and jail scenes he did particularly well, are critics say.

—Anthony George

End to Oaths Demanded

The American Federation of Teachers has called for an end to loyalty oaths for teachers in the 28 states where they still exist.

"Harassment by loyalty oaths must stop," declared AFT President Charles Cogen. "Instead, the times require that the integrety of teachers be held high."

The best way to make a fire with two sticks is to make sure one of them is a match.

—Will Rogers

Letter to an Inquiring Worker

All wage workers are eligible to belong to the IWW. Unemployed workers are eligible, also working class students of appropriate age and convictions, and the part-time employed. Our immediate aim is to penetrate the workforce with a shot of aggressive industrial unionism — with the anarcho-syndicalist idea of workers control of industry as a solution for most of the world's pressing problems.

In answer to your specific question: The IWW does not now officially represent any body of workers on the job in the manner prescribed by labor relations law. The IWW was crowded out of this area of practical union work in the early 1950s. The manner in which this was done is a revealing chapter in recent labor history but I will not discuss it here.

For the present it is enough to point out that while the IWW has members in most industries — thinly distributed, to be sure — it does not at present, as an organization, engage in the chaffer sessions known as collective bargaining.

However, the IWW is not in any sense a secret guerrilla organization preparing attacks on the capitalist system from ambush. From its inception it has declared for open and continuous confrontation with the bosses on the economic battlefront, for every immediate improvement in the lot of workers that lies within reaching distance. The IWW now aims to get back into this field where its ideas of radical, rank-and-file controlled, industrial unionism can be tested openly again and again to convince the timid that the Wobblies are on the right road to build a countervailing force to that of the parasite exploiters and warmakers who now rule the Earth.

Right now there appears to be improved opportunity to "fan the flames of discontent." We think some sections of misorganized labor are growing more and more restless under the restraints of business union leadership. The plight of the unorganized majority is constant proof of need for the IWW (a one-big-union cover for all workers), if not exactly an invitation to it.

Anyway, the IWW aims now to saturate the workforce of this country with its philosophy and it welcomes every offer of help. The IWW is especially interested in young workers. It is planning some concentration of effort on advanced college students on the reasonable assumption that maybe some of the prevailing campus radicalism can be shaped up for and directed toward the economic battlefront, once they have finished their schooling. Many of the organization's recent recruits are college men — or are recent fugitives from college.

If your interest in the IWW is still holding up, ask more questions, or just fill out the enclosed application for membership blank and send it in.

For Peace, Except in the Class War,
General Secretary-Treas.

CYBERNATION BOOSTS PROFITS

"It is generally accepted in industry that numerical control offers a dramatic increase in productivity of machine tools. A rule of thumb often used is that a numerically controlled tool offers a fourfold increase in production for a twofold increase in cost." — National Commission on Technology, Automation and Economic Progress, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

What We Want You To Do

We are building an independent labor union movement.

- independent of company control
- independent of business class influence on its outlook or approach
- independent of government and political pressures on its policies.

We need this sort of union to unite us all for more effective bargaining about job conditions. We need it to resist being used against workers anywhere, whether to undermine their wage demands in time of peace or to blast their homes in time of war. To unite us for these purposes, our union must be independent, in both thought and action, from all who would pit us against each other.

We need a worldwide union of the working class. We ask your help in building it, here and abroad, whether some other union bargains for you or not. We ask you to help by joining us, by talking about it to your fellow workers, by subscribing to our publications for your friends, by helping us organize the job and area where you live, by giving us the benefit of your eyes, your ears, your thought, your experience.

Old Unionism Petering Out?

Bureau of Labor statistics reveal that the total labor union membership in the U.S. stood at 17.9 million in 1956 and at 17.9 mlilion in 1966. Rate of union membership increase during these 10 years was less than 4 per cent for the entire period. In the same decade, according to BLS, the non-farm workforce of the nation grew from 52.4 million to 63.8 million, an increase of around 21 per cent.

In 1956, one-third of non-farm workers belonged to unions. Since then there has been a steady decline in percentage of organized slaves in non-farm industry. Present figure is around 28 per cent and the trend is downward.

The statistics show that three unions have accounted for nearly one-half the total membership gain in the past three years. They are: Steelworkers, Teamsters and Auto workers. Organizational gains were made also by government employes (all levels) and retail tradesmen. Otherwise, non-farm industries are edging toward non-union status. That's what the statistics show. The unions definitely are not keeping up with the growth of the workforce. It is a fact that the number of union workers in non-agricultural establishments, with exceptions noted, has dropped steadily since 1959.

Clearly, a better kind of unionism is needed. As the old unions lose their punch, opportunity for new and better ones improves.

In My Father's House

I found an old magazine, "Ken," dated July 7, 1938, in the cabin where I live between seasonal jobs, mostly on farms. The magazine dates back to my father's time. In it I found these lines:

"Each Oklahoma nomad dreams of a cottage and a cow, but he's just sitting on a barbed wire fence. . . . At depression depth, a man might make $8 a week; now, $5 is lucky. They are the bitterest folk in America. . ."

This year, 29 years later, I have not talked with a farmhand, old enough to know the score, who would say that the farm wage-worker's standard of living had improved in the past three decades. Some claim it has grown worse. —Joe

Every labor union, no matter what craft or industry is its specialty, should concern itself in some degree with the problems of the whole working class.

One-half or more U.S.-owned ships are registered in other nations and sail under foreign flags.

OPEN HOUSING FOR LOUISVILLE

Louisville, Ky. — The City's Board of Aldermen has adopted a strong open-housing law as a result of demonstrations in which hundreds were arrested last spring.

Another result of the fight for open housing was the election of a new board of aldermen on Nov. 7. Eleven Democrats were elected to replace Republicans. The only Republican returned to the board was Mrs. Louise Reynolds, a Negro.

The new board voted 9 to 3 for a law providing $100 fines for refusing to sell or rent a house or an apartment to a person because of race, religion, or national origin.

The only exceptions are apartment houses with four or fewer apartments if the owner or a member of his family lives on the premises. Persons "making false claims of discrimination" would have to pay all costs of any investigation and litigation.

PROGRESS

I heard a beneficiary of AFL-CIO unionism declare:

"As long as we're the highest paid union men in town, I don't care about any other union, or how much the leaders of my union get away with." But he added, "I would not cross a picket line."

TAVERN TOPIC

You'll never find flies in a beer joint these days, no matter how low the level of sanitation. But in days long gone, flies were always present in saloons. Wherever there was beer there were flies. They couldn't be kept out.

Today's pollutants are poison to every living thing above algae in water and bacilli in the air. What do they put in the stuff we drink, anyway? Should we take a hint from the flies?